army, a well equipped establishment from wheel pits to skylights and it has been so thoroughly adjusted that it works almost automatically.

The Piedmont company contributes $1,500 a year to the support of the Graded School system, which may challenge comparison with that of many a pretentious city. Nearly six hundred pupils are enrolled and there is a staff of five competent teachers under a Superintendent, Mr. Eskew, who deservedly stands in the front rank of his profession.

On the death of Col. Hammett, the stockholders of the Piedmont mills were called upon to select a man who could worthily fill his chair. There were a score of applicants. There was one man, however, who did not apply, but the stockholders applied to him. Col. Jas L. Orr, a son in-law of Col Hammett, and a son of Anderson county, was offered and accepted the position. He was then enjoying a large law practice at Greenville, and which he gave up, putting his whole heart in the Piedmont mills. Piedmont has continued to prosper. The work has increased and the credit for this is due Col. Orr.

OLD SLABTOWN.

[The following sketch was contributed to the Souvenir Edition by Maj. T. H. Russell, one of Anderson County's oldest citizens, and one of the pioneer printers of Anderson C. H.]

The upper region of Anderson county, S. C., lying on the head-waters of the Three-and-Twenty Creek, has, from time immemorial, been dubbed with the euphonious title of Slabtown. The particular spot whence the designation sprang, was Rankin's Mill, which was erected in the early settlement of the country on the Three-and-Twenty Creek, just below the junction of the three head prongs of the stream, in the plantation now owned by Ed. Algood, but in the earlier history of the neighborhood owned by William Mullikin, and later on by Dr. Wm. Robinson, and at the beginning of the war by Maj. Conners, who sold out for Confederate money to Asa Hodges, bag and baggage, lands, houses, stock, slaves, household and kitchen furniture, farming utensils, everything he owned of a tangible character, and, of course, all was lost. The tract of land was always called the best in the community, which was selected as bounty land, for its exceeding fertility.

Slabtown proper, so tradition says, derived its name from the erection of a little store, made out of slabs, on the opposite side of the stream from the mill, and where a few goods, including some liquor, were kept and sold for the accommodation of the people. Old Mr. Rankin, the grandfather of the present owner, was the original owner of the mill and tract of land attached, and has descended in a long line of genealogy from father to children, and, after a hundred years, or more, is still in the possession of the descendants. But in the mutation and changes consequent upon a century of human existence, the mill and store have been abandoned, at the original site, and steam power has superceded the water power, and instead of one little store-room, built of 10 by 12 slabs, two large store-rooms were put up within a mile of the old stand, one kept by J. Monroe Smith, at Greenwood, and the other by Major McCann, at Equality, S. C.

And now, since the war, only one store is kept open, where two were kept before the war, and owned by Messrs. T. S. & J. M. Glenn, with a steam saw and grist mill and a cotton gin at each of the places.

The McCann store was originally owned by James McCann, and was kept at the old Esquire McCann place, for a long time owned and occupied by Ezekiel Long, sr., and now owned by Ezekiel Long, jr., a grandson of the old gentleman.

Esquire McCann, of ancient fame, was the father of the mother of the Hon. Jas. L. Orr, and her mother was a Hamilton, and by this second marriage, with Miss Hamilton, two children were born—Maj. T. H. McCann and his sister, Mrs. Christy Orr, the mother of the Congressman.

In the early settlement of this region of country, the early emigrants consisted of the very best families that ever blessed any country—the Rankins, McMurrays, Hamiltons, McCanns, Pickens, Pickles, Mullikins, Wilsons, Orrs and others whom we cannot call to mind. The old Carmel Church was started by these old settlers, for most of them were Presbyterian stock, and consisted of a stand for preaching under a large, spreading oak at Slabtown, or Rankin's mill site, but soon a log house was built on a piece of land donated for this purpose by a grandfather of the present W. S. Pickens, and is now owned and occupied by him. The grandfather was a Presbyterian, and probably the whole family would have remained so, but for the refusal of the session to receive, as a member, one of the old aunts, because she did not, in their judgment, sufficiently understand and endorse the Confession of Faith. From that defection the whole connection filed off and joined the Methodist Church. At that period in our history, as the influx in our population increased, instead of building new Churches, the purpose was to keep up the old organization, hence the Church site was removed first from the stand at the spreading oak to the new log Church at the Pickens' graveyard, and from thence to the present site, with a neat, framed house, out of heart timber, and just before the war the frame building was supplanted by a substantial brick structure, now standing as a monument to the devotion and enterprise of the generation that built them. And, instead of one Church, there are dozens of Churches of other denominations, all helping to push forward the cause of christianity in this section of country. In these ancient days, the primeval habit was to go to Church horse-back or walk. The first buggy that ever made its appearance at Carmel, was as great an object of curiosity as a little circus would have been. It was put up by Mr. Maverick, and the remains of that old buggy is still owned and used by Warren W. Knight. The boys and girls would ride to Church, and the young man that was the smartest to get his best girl seated in the saddle and on his own horse, by her side, was apt to be the favored one.

Pendleton and Slabtown were intimately associated as election boxes, and one was said to be the exact exponent of the other. And Pendleton had the lead, because she was the mouth-piece of Mr. Calhoun. Pendleton and Carmel Presbyterian Churches were united under one pastorate for a number of years, first under Rev. George Reese, then under Rev. W. M. McElhenny, the owner of the Fort Hill farm, now Clemson College, and then Rev. M. Hillhouse, and afterwards the Rev. Mr. Ross superceded by the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, who served the Church as stated supply for about thirty years.

The educational interests of the Slabtown region were carefully looked after by these ancient and time-honored patriarchs. Thalian Academy was started on its pathway of great success by these enterprising citizens, under the lead of the Rev. J. Leland Kennedy. For twenty years, or more, up to and including the war, was this institution the beacon star of advanced education in this section of country. The rules for boarding houses and school were the same, and very rigid, but occasionally the boys would break over, always to their discomfiture. On one occasion when the boys had gotten some whiskey and had a debauch on Saturday night, they were brought up for trial on Monday morning, and after a pretty full investigation, the guilt was fastened upon several of the boys. Before passing sentence the teacher lectured the whole class of boys on the evils of drunkenness, he warmed up to his subject, and waving his hand to the girls said: "Girls, never marry a drinking man!" One of the boys who showed his guilt by his blushes, said: "Mr. Kennedy, I reckon they'll wait until they are axed." This tart remark upset the gravity of the court, and they were all dismissed to their books. Many such incidents—enough to fill a dime novel—might be picked up, had we the time, in connection with this noted institution of learning and its environments.

Suffice it to say, in conclusion, that what was once considered the garden spot of the Piedmont belt, has lost nearly all of its former prestige as an agricultural community, yet the fertile soil of the Three-and-Twenty lands remains for the present and future generation to develop and bring up to its original fertility, and even surpass it.

The cemeteries at Carmel and the old Pickens' graveyard contain the sleeping dust of most of the generation of noble men and women that made that historic section noted for its sobriety, intelligence and piety in the good old times of "long, long ago." And the same generous soil remains for a future generation to develop and restore again to its former prestige.

ALONG THE SAVANNAH VALLEY.

In Anderson county, along the line of the Port Royal and Western Carolina railway, which runs South and connects Anderson with Augusta, Ga., four beautiful towns have sprung into existence within the last ten years, and are rapidly coming to the front. The farm lands surrounding these towns are among the most productive of Anderson county, and are of that peculiar fertility which gives length and quality to the staple of upland cotton which this county has become famous for raising.

Dean.

or Dean's Station, is eight miles from Anderson, and derives its name from the numerous families by the name of Dean at that place, (W. T. Dean, S. A. Dean, A. A. Dean, R. B. Dean, L. A. Dean, Claud Dean), all of whom are closely related, and have for many years owned lands at this point. It is a very pretty little town, with one church—Presbyterian—one store, owned and operated by Mr. W. M Mattison, a large ginnery, a grist and saw mill, school house, blacksmith shop, and several very pretty dwellings.

Starr.

or Starr Station, is ten miles from Anderson, two miles below Dean, on the same road. This place was named in honor of W. W. Starr, former Superintendent of the P. R. & W. C. Ry., through whose influence the station was secured. At this place there are two handsome churches—Baptist and Methodist—one store, owned and operated by P. B. Allen and H C. Pruitt, under firm name of Allen & Pruitt, one large ginnery, school house and blacksmith shop. This is the home of P. B. Allen, the largest cotton producer in the county. His average yield of cotton is from 800 to 1,000 bales per annum, with a corresponding amount of corn, oats, hay and peas.

Cooks.

The most prosperous of these towns is Cooks, or Cook Station, which is 15 miles from Anderson, five miles below Starr. This station takes its name from Dr. A. G. Cook, now deceased, who for many years owned the lands at this point along the Port Royal and Western Carolina Railway. In 1886, immediately upon the completion of the railroad, Dr. Cook built a large, handsome dwelling there and moved his family into it. In rapid succession six store rooms were built and stocked with goods, and in a few years handsome dwellings and churches were erected. To-day it is a thriving little town, with 100 inhabitants, ten or twelve dwellings, six stores, three churches—Baptist, Methodist, and Associate Reform Presbyterian—all of which are in a flourishing condition, with large Sunday schools. A handsome academy, well finished and neatly furnished, under the management of Miss Blakely, and with an average attendance of about 50 pupils. Two large ginneries, fitted with all modern, improved machinery, and one first class hotel, under the management of Mrs. M. E. Hall and daughter. The lands surrounding Cooks are slightly rolling, and very productive. The town is laid off in broad streets, which are shaded by beautiful oaks.

Most prominent among the stores of Cook's is that of W. P. Cook. This is a two-story concrete building, 30 by 90 feet, with basement, or cellar, running full length of the store. The stock consists of general merchandise, furniture and undertaker's stock—caskets, coffins and trimmings. This is decidedly the handsomest store in the town, and is filled from top to basement floor with goods. Mr. Cook is doing a fine business. During the winter much of his time is devoted to buying and shipping cotton. The cotton receipts of the town are from 1,500 to 2,000 bales.

Mr. William Pringle Cook is the eldest son of Dr. A. G. Cook, deceased. He was born near Cook Station Jan. 23, 1859. He received his

W. P. Cook.

education at Moffetsville Academy and Due West College, this State, subsequently studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1887. He did not enter upon the practice of law, but in 1888 engaged in the mercantile business, and has continued in that business to the present time. He owns and controls most of the farm lands adjoining the station, and operates several large farms in addition to his mercantile business. Mr. Cook is quiet and unobtrusive, but thoroughly conscientious and reliable and has won a host of friends throughout this entire section of country.

Barnes.

or Barnes Station, is nineteen miles from Anderson, four miles below Cooks, and takes its name from a prominent citizen of that section whose home has for many years been located at this point—Mr. J. T. Barnes. This is a small station, but the farm lands surrounding it are excellent and in a high state of cultivation, the people are intelligent and industrious, and it is only a question of time until it becomes a large and prosperous town. The only store in town is owned and operated by Mr. V H. Watson, a young man of fine business qualifications, and he finds it necessary to carry a large stock of general merchandise to meet the demands of his customers.

It might be mentioned in conclusion that the banking business of Dean, Starr, Cook's and Barnes is done at Anderson.

CLEMSON COLLEGE.

The foundation of the Clemson Agricultural and Mechanical College dates back to the time of John C. Calhoun. He realized that the farming class of South Carolina was in need of just such an institution, but it was left to the giant intellect of his son-in-law, Thomas G. Clemson, to have the plans carried through and the college established. The college was not established by chance, but after one of the most desperate conflicts in political history; a fight for the emancipation of the common people and the providing for them of practical education.

A convention of the farmers of South Carolina passed, in 1886, a resolution advocating the establishment of an agricultural college. The matter was given definite form by the action of Mr. Clemson, who died in 1888, leaving as a bequest to the State the old Calhoun homestead, Fort Hill, consisting of about 825 acres of land, and about $100,000 for this purpose. The Legislature passed an Act, which became a law in November, 1889, accepting the bequest. The corner stone of the college was laid on July 28, 1891, and the institution was opened on July 6, 1893, with an enrollment during its first session of 446 students.

Calhoun's old home has been transformed. Here where for many years cherished associations have, by the outside world, been undisturbed, has grown a lovely town with knowledge in its wake. The giant oaks and drooping cedars have disappeared and magnificent college buildings have been constructed which would do honor to any country on the face of the earth.

Thomas G. Clemson was a genius The old Pendleton Farmers' Society, of which he was an active member, held a meeting on Nov. 24, 1866, and appointed a committee, consisting of Mr. Clemson, Hon. R. F. Simpson and W. A. Hayne, to appeal to their fellow-citizens to build an agricultural institution to educate the farmer's boys. At a subsequent meeting Mr. Clemson made an address and prepared a circular calling on the people to help in this matter, and this ultimately resulted in the establishment of the college which to-day bears his name.

The object of the college, in conformity with the Acts of Congress and of the State Legislature, is to give practical instruction in agriculture and the mechanic arts. To accomplish this object in its highest sense, careful instruction is given in the principles and in the application of the sciences bearing upon agriculture and mechanics; and to give the breadth and the culture necessary for a rounded education, a liberal course is provided in history, in economics and in English.

Clemson College is not in Anderson county, but is just across the line in Oconee and is closely associated with Anderson. The college is one mile from Calhoun, a station on the Southern Railway, four miles from Pendleton, and two miles from Cherry's, a station on the Blue Ridge Railroad. Few people realize what magnificent college buildings there are at Clemson, and the plant is the finest that can be found at any similar institution.

The main college building contains eighteen large rooms, and is three stories high. In this there are society halls, libraries, offices for the president and the secretary. Adjoining this is a hall capable of seating 800 persons, used for religious services and as an assembly room. A three story brick building, containing 164 rooms, constitutes barracks for the cadets, and in addition to rooms for a dormitory, it has a mess-hall 134 by 44 feet in size. This building, like all the others at Clemson, is heated by steam, lighted by electricity, and has an abundant supply of pure fresh water. The kitchen is 50 by 37 feet, and equipped with all the modern appliances for culinary purposes.

The hospital, located apart from the other college buildings, is of wood and was especially constructed for its purposes. It is connected with the water works and with the electric light plant, and has a thorough sewerage system.

The mechanical building is a large brick structure covered with slate and ornamented with towers and gables. It is composed of one main three-story building with three wings, one of which is two-stories high, the other two being one-story. The offices, drawing and lecture rooms are ceiled and finished up, some in natural woods, others in suitably colored paints. The different shop rooms are laid on a liberal scale and are well adapted to the work of instruction in the mechanic arts. The wood shop comprises an office and four rooms with a total floor space of 9,200 square feet. The forging shops and foundry are in one room with 2,500 square feet. The machine shop is composed of two rooms and an office with floor area of 8,300 square feet. The tool and store room occupies 1,450 square feet. The boiler, engine and dynamo rooms 2,300 square feet. The office 500 square feet. The lecture and drawing rooms 3,400 square feet. A total area in the entire building of 27,650 square feet. It is equipped with modern machinery and appliances for instruction in mechanic arts, and the outfit is being constantly increased as occasion demands.

The chemical laboratory is of brick, 50 by 80 feet, two-stories high. It is roofed with slate and finished inside with Southern pine. On the first floor there are eight rooms. Five of these are appropriated for State Analytical and Experiment Station work, and are supplied with all the necessary chemical and optical apparatus. Of the other rooms on this floor, one is a balance room for students, one an office, and the third is fitted up as a laboratory for advanced students. The basement is used for assaying and for storage. The rooms on the second floor are used for work connected with this department.

A wooden building containing offices, a library and storage and seed rooms, is provided for the use of officers of the Experiment Station. Under an Act of Congress approved March 2, 1887, the South Carolina Experiment Station was organized in January, 1888, at Columbia, as a department of the University of South Carolina. It was moved to Clemson in 1890 and reorganized as a department of Clemson College

The college is provided with two barns. One 36 by 80 feet for the teams, wagons, and the storage of forage. Of the other, one section, 184 by 30 feet, accommodates 80 head of cattle; and the second, 40 by 72 feet, contains six silos with an aggregate capacity of four hundred tons. The dairy building is especially constructed for dairy purposes, and is equipped with a twelve-horse power engine, and apparatus necessary for butter and cheese making by most approved methods. The horticultural department is provided with a green house, a canning house, and a packing house with a brick basement.

The laundry is a brick building, specially constructed and fitted with improved machinery of a modern steam laundry. Nine two-story brick buildings, nine six-room cottages, and sixteeen smaller houses furnish residences for professors and other employees

A large hotel, beautifully located, and overlooking the campus and college buildings, has recently been erected and is under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis. This has proven to be one of the most needed structures at Clemson.

The former residence of John C. Calhoun is kept, in accordance with the provisions of Mr. Clemson's will, as a place for preserving the relics of Calhoun, and for the fine collection of oil paintaings left to the College by Mr. Clemson.

There are two sources from which water is obtained. The general supply is collected through iron pipes into a reservoir, from which it is pumped into a water tower eighty feet high, whence it is distributed. Drinking water is pumped in a continuous stream from a bold stream directly into the barracks; it is by this means furnished fresh, pure and cold. The waste water is used for flushing the sewer pipes, which empty into the Seneca river, a half-mile away.

Taken as a whole there is no similar institution in the South to-day that will surpass Clemson College. Everything is complete which is necessary to make it an ideal institution, and where the young men can receive the best kind of instruction at the lowest possible expense. The trustees of the College have selected, to the best of their ability, a faculty of a superior order, and the best men in the land have been secured. President Craighead is assisted by an able corps, and by his individual work he has done much to advance the inter-